Summer 1989

Urban Horticulture Presents

Vol. 6, No. 3

Center for Urban Horticulture / Washington Park Arboretum / University of Washington

SUMMER 1989 CENTER NEWS

Alas, spring did come and summer is following. How we all longed for warm days and multitudes of flowers after the long, cold, and wet winter! How many of you have been renovating plantings damaged from the cold, perhaps previously weakened by the drought?

I hope you have been selecting new plant material appropriate for our climate both in cold hardiness and drought tolerance. Take time this summer to review your plantings, browse the nurseries, and plan for any fall projects. Whether we like it or not, weather and water should be the prime considerations in plant selection.

Summer is still an excellent time to stop by the Center to visit the Miller Library. Or to take part in one of our classes or day tours. Or to stop by the Washington Park Arboretum for a tour, special gift at the Gift Shop, or just to look at the plants. There are some lovely summertime plants!

And we look forward to seeing you all in September.

John A. Wott
Professor, Continuing Education

Miller Library News

The collection in the Miller Horticultural Library now consists of nearly 5,000 books and over 200 journal and newsletter subscriptions. The Library is growing, thanks to the generous support of the horticultural community. Many gifts were received by the Library last spring: a collection of horticultural books given by Professor Emeritus Arthur Kruckeberg; a collection of British and American gardening books and brochures donated by Mrs. Marianna Price; and a collection of bonsai, flower arranging, and horticultural books given in memory of Mrs. Hazel M. Pringle.

A limited and special edition of *TWO EAST ANGLIAN PICTURE BOOKS* (facsimiles of the Helmingham Herbal and Bestiary of 1504 A.D.) was presented to the Library at the annual meeting of the Northwest Horticultural Society. *JAPANESE PLANTS* was donated by Dr. John Wott in memory of Mrs. Leroy Collins, and *GREEN STREETS* was donated by Mai Arbegast in memory of Pendleton Miller. A collection of books and journals on bonsai and ikebana was donated by John McDiarmid in memory of his wife Mary.

Mrs. John Fluke has made a generous gift of $10,000 designated for the Library through the Northwest Horticultural Society's Library Fund. Her gift will be used for special projects in the Library's new addition, which will go into construction this summer.

Thanks to all for these much appreciated gifts.

Summer Interns

Again this summer, we will have two interns who have applied through the national American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta intern program. Mr. Christopher Floyd from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA, will work with Tim Hohn and Chris Pfeiffer on a special project at the Arboretum. Mr. Peter Williams, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, will be working on educational projects at the Center. If you see these young men around, be sure to introduce yourself.

We also are pleased to have Ms. Nicole Bolomey, from Liechtenstein, who started an exchange intern project April 17th at the Arboretum. It's always a pleasure to have visitors among us.

Construction Continues

As suspected, the Boulevard Redesign Project along N.E. 41st Street will continue, with traffic revisions, detours, parking dilemmas, etc. The project has been slowed due to a lack of funds for redesign and development. Please be prepared for some inconveniences.

Also, construction work should begin soon on the addition to the Elisabeth Carey Miller Library. This necessarily will entail some noise and congestion on the west side of the existing Merrill Hall and Conference Hall. If you are concerned, please call ahead for details.

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

*One-hour lectures covering a wide range of horticultural interests.
*$1.00 fee will be charged for lectures held at the Center for Urban Horticulture; please do not park on the street.

The Master Gardener

Second Friday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Urban Horticulture.
Practical gardening information presented by the Washington State University Master Gardeners.

Knowing and Controlling Weeds

July 14
by JoAnn Reicke

Learn how to control common weeds without chemicals! Understanding the fascinating survival strategies and reproductive patterns of weeds will help you win the battle. This program includes a mini-field trip, so wear comfortable walking shoes.

The Truth About "Killer Bees"

August 11
by Gene Davidson

The Africanized honey bee, or "killer bee," has received considerable media attention, much of it very sensational. Now you can get the facts from a former USDA entomologist who has studied the topic thoroughly. Can Africanized bees survive this far north? Are they as agressive as news accounts have indicated? How will they affect honey production and the pollination of horticultural crops?

Brown-Bag Garden Talks

First and third Wednesdays of each month, 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. Usually held at the HUB, University of Washington.

Join us during the lunch hour for these FREE lectures, walks, and demonstrations which are jointly sponsored by the Center for Urban Horticulture and the Washington State University Master Gardeners.

The Water-Saving Gardener: Environmental Protection and Conservation

July 5
by Mary Robson, WSU Master Gardener

Unknowingly, many gardeners contribute to water pollution as fertilizers, pesticides, and eroded soil end up in our streams, lakes, and bays. We also waste an incredible amount of water through inefficient watering practices. Learn how you can be an environmentally sound gardener.

The Winter Vegetable Garden—Plant It Now!

July 19
by Richard Grant, WSU Master Gardener

The usually mild winters of the Puget Sound area allow us to grow vegetables throughout the year. But you must plant now for a winter harvest. French sorrel, onions, kale, and Italian salad lettuce are just a few of the winter vegetables tried by Richard Grant.

Campus Tree Walk: The International Friendship Grove

August 2
by Van Bobbitt

The International Friendship Grove, located on Campus Parkway, resulted from the World Forestry Congress, which was held at the University of Washington in 1960. Foresters from 65 participating nations planted trees. See how they look 29 years later.

Tour of the UW Medicinal Herb Garden

August 16
The Friends of the Medicinal Herb Garden

Summer is a great time to study the plants of the Medicinal Herb Garden. Your guide will also delve into the history of this unique collection and how the University building plans could affect its future.

Arbor Fest

The week-long celebration of Arbor Day events, cosponsored with the Department of Engineering, City of Seattle, was a success. Jerry Clark, Seattle City Arborist, coordinated. Events, tours, lectures, seminars, demonstrations and awards were all a part of the program. Many area businesses and people helped with sponsorship. The Saturday evening program featured Andy and Katy Lipkis, leaders of the Tree People, who were responsible for the planting of 1,000,000 trees in Los Angeles. Swanson's, Rosso's, Magnolia G. C., and Plant Amnesty received the Friend of the Trees Awards. The City of Seattle was designated a "Tree City, USA" by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Hort Field Day

The third annual Hort Field Day found 150 students participating in twelve field events around the Center grounds. The activity is co-sponsored by Washington Association of Landscape Professionals, and all events and materials were furnished by area members. High schools who participated this year were Auburn, Cascade, Enumclaw, Everett, Franklin Pierce, Kent Schools, Lakewood, Lynnwood, Mount Si, Nathan Hale, Tahoma, and Vashon Island. Jeff Henning was W.A.L.P. chair. The activity brought students and professionals together.

Continuing Education Staff

John A. Wott, professor
Van M. Bobbitt, coordinator
Lynda Ransley, coordinator (WPA)
Jan Davis, program assistant
Rebecca Johnson, building services coordinator
Scot Medbury, graduate assistant
Sue Ann Funk, graduate assistant

Telephones
CUH—545–8033
9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. weekdays

WPA—543–8800
10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. weekdays
Noon–4:00 p.m. weekends, holidays

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 1989

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
2 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	3	4	5 **12:10 p.m. HUB** Water-Saving Gardener	6	7	8 **8 a.m. CUH*** Centennial Garden Tour **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
9 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	10	11	12 **7 p.m. CUH*** All in a Garden Green	13 **8 a.m. CUH*** Centennial Garden Tour	14 **7:30 p.m. CUH*** Weeds	15 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
16 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	17	18	19 **12:10 p.m. HUB** Winter Vegetable Garden **7 p.m. CUH*** Summer Pruning	20	21	22 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
23 **Noon CUH** Puget Sound Bonsai Association **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour **1 p.m. CUH*** Summer Pruning	24	25 **10 a.m. CUH*** Botany by Canoe **7 p.m. CUH** Association for Women in Landscaping	26 **10 a.m. WPA** Explorers Walk	27	28	29 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
30 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	31					

AUGUST

		1	2 **12:10 p.m. HUB** Campus Tree Walk	3 **8 a.m. CUH*** Annual Nursery & Garden Tour	4	5 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
6 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	7	8	9	10	11 **7:30 p.m. CUH*** Killer Bees	12 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
13 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	14	15 **7 p.m. CUH*** Daisies and Their Relatives	16 **12:10 p.m. HUB** Tour of Herb Garden	17	18	19 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
20 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	21	22	23 **10 a.m. WPA** Explorers Walk	24	25	26 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
27 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER

					1	2 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic
3 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic **1 p.m. WPA** Sundays at One Tour	LABOR DAY 4	5	6 **12:10 p.m. HUB** Brown Bag Lecture **7:30 p.m. CUH** Rhododendron Society	7	8 **7:30 p.m. CUH*** Master Gardener Lecturer	9 **Noon-4 p.m. WPA** Master Gardener Clinic

CUH = Center for Urban Horticulture WPA = Washington Park Arboretum HUB = Husky Union Building * = Fee

URBAN HORTICULTURE COURSES

All in a Garden Green

Flower color, although lovely, is often fleeting. A garden that takes advantage of the texture and color that leaves provide lasts in beauty from earliest spring to last frost. Moreover, a range of bold and fine leaf textures overlaid by the many hues of green supplies the garden with a subtle mystery not found in settings dependent upon flower color. This class will reveal to you a wide range of beautiful plants with beautiful leaves, while also giving you ideas for simple garden design.

INSTRUCTOR: Kevin Nicolay
DATE: Wednesday, July 12, 7 to 9 p.m.
FEE: $12

Centennial Garden Tour

Horticulture certainly ranks among the more colorful pursuits in our state's hundred-year history, and nowhere is that legacy better expressed than at the manicured state capitol campus in Olympia. A fine tradition of Arbor Day plantings has taken root there, adding to an already impressive collection of mature trees. The charming conservatory showcases well-grown container plants of astonishing variety. Best of all is the Olmsted-designed sunken garden, one of the few public herbaceous perennial plantings in the Northwest. Join CUH in celebrating the Washington State centennial this summer in Olympia, where we will tour both the formal capitol grounds and the naturalistic park at Tumwater Falls. En route, we will stop for a summer stroll in the extraordinary Lakewold Gardens! Please register for your preferred date.

Tour A—Saturday, July 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tour B—Thursday, July 13, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

TOUR LEADER: Scot Medbury
FEE: $35

Summer Pruning

Not all pruning must be done in the dormant season. Summer is a good time to renovate overgrown yards and to prune spring-flowering trees and shrubs. An evening lecture will cover the best techniques and tools for pruning, as well as criteria for selecting a professional arborist for large- scale tree work. The Sunday afternoon workshop will include a step-by-step pruning demonstration of techniques for renovation and upkeep, followed by opportunities for students to practice their skills. Ms. Turnbull is the founder of Plant Amnesty, an organization founded to promote sound pruning practices.

INSTRUCTOR: Cass Turnbull
DATES: Wednesday, July 19, 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, July 23, 1 to 4 p.m.
FEE: $18

Botany by Canoe

Discover the natural history of Foster Island and environs from the water on this fun and educational outing. Instructors will begin with a discussion of basic canoeing techniques and water safety. Then they will interpret the area's history and plant, animal, and bird life while leisurely paddling through this unique urban wetland.

INSTRUCTORS: CUH/Arboretum guides and staff
DATE: Tuesday, July 25, 10 a.m. to noon
FEE: $15

REGISTRATION FORM

Urban Horticulture Courses—Preregistration Required

COURSE	FEE	STUDENT(S)	TOTAL
			$

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR $_____

Checks payable to University of Washington. No bank cards. Registrations filled in order received. Limited class enrollment; classes fill rapidly, so register early.

Refunds: Cancellations prior to the first class will be refunded minus a $5.00 handling fee or 25% of the class cost (whichever is higher). Special cancellation policies may apply to specific programs. No refund after the first class.

NAME_____ Phone: Day_____ Evening_____

ADDRESS_____
Street City State ZIP Code

Mail payment and registration to:
Urban Horticulture Courses, GF–15
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195

A Gift of Learning: Give a gift certificate in the amount of one of the courses. Call Jan Davis for details (545–8033).

Mailing List Update

If you would like to continue receiving this newsletter, *check the date on your address label.* If your label is dated prior to June 1988, *your name will be removed from* our list *UNLESS* you call 545–8033.

Please keep my name on the mailing list. Attach mailing label or write:

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ ZIP Code_____

MAIL TO: Continuing Education, Center for Urban Horticulture, GF–15, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195.

Annual Nursery and Garden Tour

Join CUH staff as they visit specialty nurseries and celebrated gardens in West Seattle and on Vashon Island. Participants will have the opportunity to purchase plants and doubtless will return with many new ideas for their own gardens. Transportation will be provided from the Center for Urban Horticulture.

TOUR LEADERS: Becky Johnson and Van Bobbitt
DATE: Thursday, August 3, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
FEE: $28

Daisies and their Relatives: Garden Design with the Composites

Who can imagine a cottage garden or a wildflower meadow without daisies? Daisies are but one part of a vast group of ornamental and medicinal plants, the Compositae. Plants in this family can flower nearly year-round in the Pacific Northwest and are especially useful for extending the bloom season into late fall. Many are drought tolerant. This class will delve into the history, growing requirements, and garden possibilities of this indispensable family, which includes asters, marigolds, calendulas, chrysanthemums, and even liatris, dusty miller, and ageratum.

INSTRUCTOR: Mary Robson
DATE: Tuesday, August 15, 7 to 9 p.m.
FEE: $10

New MFR Program Option

Plans are progressing for a new Master of Forest Resources Program Option in Urban Horticulture designed for recent graduates and mid-career professionals in public and institutional horticulture, parks, botanic garden, and arboretum management, landscape construction, and related professions. The non-thesis degree program should begin in Fall 1989, but all applications must be completed no later than July 1. The option requires 3 to 4 quarters of course work plus one or two quarters on an internship or an independent project culminating in the public presentation of a written paper. For more information, contact the Graduate Coordinator at the Center.

NHS/CUH Extravaganza

At press time, plans are still being finalized for a special program revolving around plants and explorers from China and the Chinese influence upon the Northwest. The Northwest Horticulture Society will soon announce the weekend-long activities. Coupled with this event will be the annual NHS Plant Sale and the CUH Open House. Mark your calendars now—September 22–23, 1989.

Volunteers Needed

The Center has need for a few volunteers. We need people to assist in managing the photograph/slide collection. Also, we could use a person who has editing/publications experience. Those interested in volunteering a few hours a week or month at the Center's reception desk should call 543–8616 for details.

Northwest Flower and Garden Show—A Success

By this time, everyone knows that the first annual Northwest Flower and Garden Show was a huge success with nearly 60,000 paying customers. Already the management has decreed that the 1990 show will be even better. The crowds, nearly 21,000 people on Sunday, were by far the largest in the new Washington State Convention Center. The show also brought many diverse horticultural groups together under the same roof. Mark your calendars now—February 16–18, 1990.

How Dry are our Summers?

George Pinyuh
Cooperative Extension
Washington State University

For folks who don't believe in the droughtiness of ordinary western Washington summers, a comparison of Seattle-Tacoma summer rainfall with a few other areas of the world might prove interesting. These areas, by the way, are where a large majority of the ornamental plants we use originally came from. Obviously, they evolved in locales where summer rainfall is not only the norm, but in most cases the amounts they receive are extraordinary. The rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias, dogwoods, maples, and turfgrasses that come from such areas will either require a considerable amount of irrigation or will need to be managed appropriately with water conserving techniques in mind.

The average rainfall for the four months of May through August in the Seattle-Tacoma area is 5.1 inches. For the same period, New York City's precipitation is 20.8 inches, about four times greater. During this period in the Himalayas and western China an astonishing total of 42.8 inches comes down! Japan, another source of many of our ornamentals, goes into the record books with 23.6 inches of precipitation during the summer months. In other words, when plants' demand for water is greatest, even in a normal summer they can count on precious little falling from the sky in our area.

Average Rainfall: May–August

Himalayas, w. China	42.8 inches
Japan	23.6 inches
New York City	20.8 inches
Seattle-Tacoma	5.1 inches

WASHINGTON PARK ARBORETUM

Much of the explosion of spring color has now passed, but summer offers its own special invitation. Bright, sunny days and long, cool evenings are perfect for a stroll through the Arboretum. The lush greens of summer foliage are punctuated by color from summer flowering trees such as *Styrax japonica, Cornus kousa, Stewartia pseudocamellia,* and *Eucryphia* spp. Flowering shrubs such as *Cistus, Hypericum, Buddleia,* hydrangeas, and late-flowering rhododendrons also form eye-catching displays. Come and explore the winding trails, tranquil spots and 200 acres of plant collections.

TOURS

For an in-depth look at the Arboretum in summer, join us for a free tour. All tours leave from the Graham Visitors Center; reservations are not required. For more information, please call 543–8800.

Sundays at One

Every Sunday at 1 p.m. (except in December), knowledgeable guides lead tours of the Arboretum's collections, highlighting plants or areas of special seasonal interest.

Explorers' Walks

An Arboretum plant expert leads 2-hour walking tours for plant enthusiasts the fourth Wednesday of every month except December. Tours depart the Visitors Center at 10 a.m.

Graham Visitors Center

The Graham Visitors Center is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from noon to 4 p.m. on weekends. Volunteers are on duty to answer your questions about the Arboretum and to help you plan your visit. The Arboretum Foundation's gift shop is filled with interesting items for sale. If you are interested in getting more involved at the Arboretum, call 543–8800 to find out about our exciting volunteer opportunities.

Master Gardeners

The Washington State University Master Gardeners will be at the Graham Visitors Center this summer every Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. to answer your gardening questions.

Group Tours

Special guided tours for school groups, garden clubs, and other organizations can be arranged with three weeks' advance notice. Call 543–8800 for more information.

Urban Horticulture Presents...

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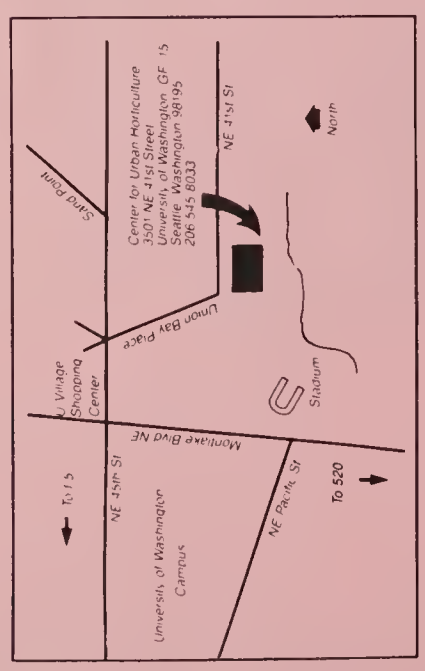
University of Washington, GF–15
Seattle, WA 98195



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